the channel gets choked and breaches. To repair these breaches the channel has to be closed, often when water is most needed. Standing crops suffer in consequence. Altogether the system is very troublesome. Therefore let the P. W. D. clear weeds in River channels. If this cannot be done free of charge, a weeding cess of 3 pies in the Rupee of assessment may be levied from raiyats for this purpose. *Mr. Srinivasamurti* (Landholder and R. M. from Hassan Taluk) stated that the proposed cess was unnecessary and that in the Hassan District there was no difficulty in weed clearing, and the Revenue authorities effectually supervised the same. If water failed in the channel, it was because water failed in the river. *Mr. Narasimhagauda* (Landholder and R. M. from Seringapatam Taluk) stated that it was chiefly raiyats, under Brahmin landholders, that failed to do their portion of weed clearing.

Dewan's reply.—It is doubtful that a cess in commutation of the liability to clear weeds would be approved by all land owners. The richer or non-laboring classes will gladly pay it, but the poorer raiyat accustomed to manual labor probably will prefer doing his bit himself. Where the channel is not apportioned among raiyats for weed clearing, such apportionment should be made, and those that cannot or will not do their portion of the work themselves or get it done, can pay for it and the Government will have it executed at their expense under Rule.

Subject No. 24.

Revision of pay of Taluk Establishments.

Summary of discussion.—The pay of officials in the Taluk Cutcherry and Shekdars and Tank Inspectors should be increased. Travelling allowance should be granted to the first and horse allowance to the second and third. The present scales were fixed many years ago, and, times and circumstances have considerably changed since then.

Mr. Sadasiva Rao (Pleader R. M. from Dodballapur) moved the question, and was supported by several other Members.

Dewan's reply.—The revision of the Taluk establishments is under the consideration of Government and something will be done as quickly as possible.

Subject No. 25.

Qualifications for Patel and Shanbhogs' offices.

Summary of discussion.—For eligibility to the offices of Shanbhog and Patel, examination should be prescribed. A property qualification should also be prescribed. At present Patels are often illiterate, oftentimes both Patels and Shanbhogs are ignorant of Government Rules and Regulations, and sometimes possessed of no property and therefore unreliable.

Dewan's reply.—Impracticable.

Subject No. 26.

Hakdar Patels and Shanbhogs to officiate by rotation.

Summary of discussion.—Hakdar Patels and Shanbhogs including coparceners in the hak should be allowed to officiate by rotation. At present partners in the right do not share the duties but oftentimes share the emoluments.

Dewan's reply.—Rotation in the case of Shanbhogs appears to be inadvisable. In the case of Patels it is more feasible. The matter has been considered and opinions differ. That the office should go by rotation among Co-ordinate Branches as vacancies occur would ensure better work than rotation for terms of years.

Subject No. 27.

Timber grants for re-building Houses destroyed by fire.

Summary of discussion.—At present Government sanction has to be obtained in every case of grant of wood on favorable terms for re-building houses destroyed by fire. This entails delay and inconvenience. The power should be delegated to Amildars.

Dewan's reply.—It is undesirable that this power should be delegated to the Taluk Amildar. But to expedite matters we may empower Deputy Commissioners to grant up to a limit of Rs. 25 in value for each house and the Inspector General of Forests up to a limit of Rs. 50, the rest only coming up to Government for sanction. The Rules will be modified accordingly.

Subject No. 28.

Assignment of District Jungle for Chitaldroog.

[*Note.*—The Deputy Commissioner of Chitaldroog represented that help might be given in the shape of timber on favorable terms to poor people in his District also to enable them to re-build their houses destroyed by fire, but the difficulty was that no jungle had been assigned to that District. The Dewan replied that the Inspector General of Forests would be requested to assign a tract on the distinct understanding that it shall be conserved and economically worked and that if it becomes denuded, no fresh assignment will be made.]

Subject No. 29.

Raiyats' privileges should be allowed to be exercised in Forests outside village limits where this is necessary.

Summary of discussion.—The existing rule which restricts raiyats to exercise their Forest privileges within the forests of their own villages is inconvenient. Oftentimes no wood is available in such places or there is no jungle within the limits of the village, and the raiyat has to go without it or obtain it elsewhere paying for it. The rule should be modified so as to allow the raiyat to get wood from an adjoining village or in any other part of the Taluk where it may be available.

[Mr. Giriyappa (Landholder and R. M. from Shimoga Taluk) and Mr. Rangaswamaiengar (Pleader and R. M. from Chikballapur Taluk) spoke to the same effect for the parts of the country they respectively came from.]

Dewan's reply.—It often happens that raiyats look only to their present wants without a thought for the future, abuse their privileges, and denude the jungles set apart for them, and then ask for the use of other jungles. Such do not deserve any consideration and should go without their privileges. A general permission of the kind asked for cannot be granted. Where no jungle has been assigned to a village and where necessity exists, we can assign some with